

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: JOSEPH D. LENTO,

Respondent.

Case No. 2:13-mc-00195-PD

**FILED**

**JUL 22 2019**

KATE BARKMAN, Clerk  
By MA Dep. Clerk

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
July 15, 2019  
2:28 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE HEARING: DISBARMENT  
BEFORE THE HONORABLE PAUL S. DIAMOND,  
THE HONORABLE ROBERT R. KELLY  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGES  
AND THE HONORABLE MARILYN HEFFLEY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
(UNDER SEAL)

APPEARANCES:

For the Respondent:

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Proceedings recorded by electronic sound recording;  
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## WITNESSES FOR RESPONDENT

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1 (Call to order at 2:28 p.m.)

2 THE CLERK: All rise. Court is in session, the  
3 Honorable Judges Paul S. Diamond, Marilyn Heffley, and Robert  
4 R. Kelly presiding.

5 THE COURT: Please be seated.

6 MR. FEINSTEIN: Thank you.

7 THE COURT: How would you like to proceed, counsel?

8 MR. FEINSTEIN: Well, Your Honor, we'd sort of leave  
9 that to the Court's discretion. This is a simple matter where  
10 he was -- Mr. Lento had been suspended in state court and was  
11 reinstated without a hearing because of the amount of time.

12 The requirement of course here is different where he  
13 had to file a petition because he had been suspended for more  
14 than three months. If Your Honors would like to hear  
15 testimony, Mr. --

16 THE COURT: Perhaps you -- we're -- I'm having  
17 trouble hearing you. Maybe you could remain seated and speak  
18 into the microphone and start again?

19 MR. FEINSTEIN: I'm sorry. Your Honor, I will  
20 certainly leave that to your discretion. Mr. Lento is here  
21 prepared to testify on his behalf, but the suspension in state  
22 court had been for less than a year or I should say less than a  
23 year and a day. So he was reinstated seamlessly without the  
24 necessity of a hearing.

25 However, because he was suspended for more than three

1 months, it requires the necessity of a petition he had filed  
2 here.

3 Since his reinstatement in Pennsylvania, he had been  
4 re-instated in New Jersey, which was -- the suspension was just  
5 for reciprocity and he actually would obtain a new admission in  
6 the state of New York after going through an appropriate  
7 character committee hearing up there.

8 If Your Honors would like to hear from Mr. Lento, I'd  
9 be more than happy to put him on.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Feinstein, this is your case, not  
11 ours.

12 MR. FEINSTEIN: Okay, then I call Joseph Lento to the  
13 stand.

14 THE COURT: Very well.

15 THE COURT RECORDER: Please state your name for the  
16 record?

17 MR. LENTO: Joseph Lento, L-E-N-T-O.

18 THE COURT RECORDER: Please raise your right hand.

19 JOSEPH LENTO

20 Respondent, having been duly sworn testified as follows:

21 BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

22 Q Mr. Lento, how old are you?

23 A 41 years old.

24 Q And when were you first licensed in the Commonwealth  
25 of Pennsylvania?

1 A 2008.

2 Q And your suspension in Pennsylvania start -- was in  
3 2013; is that correct?

4 A Yes, it started July of 2013. The issue first arose  
5 in the fall that led to the suspension in the fall of 2011.

6 Q So, in fact, you'd only been in practice in  
7 Pennsylvania for a matter of a few years before you were  
8 suspended?

9 A Less than three years. Well, the issue arose less  
10 than -- with my practicing less than three years. The  
11 suspension itself, which I consented to, took effect in July of  
12 2013.

13 THE COURT: Mr. Lento, you were a juvenile probation  
14 officer?

15 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Beginning when?

17 MR. LENTO: February of 2003.

18 THE COURT: Until when?

19 MR. LENTO: October or so. The fall of 2008, I  
20 believe.

21 THE COURT: And it's very -- the record's unclear.  
22 Were you fired?

23 MR. LENTO: I had gone out on FMLA, Your Honor. I'd  
24 sought -- it's been a while, forgive me. I sought that that be  
25 renewed --

1 THE COURT: You're telling me you don't remember how  
2 you --

3 MR. LENTO: That these -- no, no, I wasn't --

4 THE COURT: -- stopped being a probation officer?

5 MR. LENTO: I'm sorry, I wasn't fired. I had gone  
6 out on FMLA. At least I don't know what the exact terminology  
7 was.

8 I could explain, though, if I it's all right. I had  
9 gone out on FMLA. I sought the deputy renewed. It wasn't  
10 renewed.

11 I didn't return to work. I don't know if that was  
12 technically say terminated, but I don't know what the  
13 terminology was in other words, forgive me.

14 THE COURT: Well, you simply stopped showing up for  
15 work?

16 MR. LENTO: That would be relatively accurate, Your  
17 Honor, yes.

18 THE COURT: So you quit?

19 MR. LENTO: Essentially.

20 THE COURT: And when did you become a member of the  
21 Bar of Pennsylvania?

22 MR. LENTO: October of 2008.

23 THE COURT: So this was roughly at the same time you  
24 became a member of the Pennsylvania Bar?

25 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: And you were suspended by the State  
2 Supreme Court when?

3 MR. LENTO: July of 2013.

4 THE COURT: When did you notify the New Jersey  
5 District Court about suspension?

6 MR. LENTO: Everybody immediately, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: It appears from the record in front of us  
8 that New Jersey wasn't notified until five years later. Is  
9 that incorrect?

10 MR. LENTO: It wouldn't sound accurate to me. I know  
11 I had notified the state of New Jersey immediately per the  
12 instructions of my attorney at that time.

13 New Jersey, the District Court I believe it was, they  
14 did contact me in the -- I believe the spring of 2017 when the  
15 New Jersey reciprocal discipline was being finalized. I'd  
16 explained the circumstances.

17 THE COURT: I'm not understanding any of this. You  
18 notified us and we imposed reciprocal discipline within a  
19 matter of a month or two. When did you notify New Jersey?

20 MR. LENTO: My recollection would be I had notified  
21 everybody --

22 THE COURT: When a lawyer tells me my recollection  
23 about something that should be important in his life, I don't  
24 really take well to that.

25 MR. LENTO: I understand, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: When did you notify New Jersey?

2 MR. LENTO: I notified everybody as far as I  
3 understood whom I was supposed to notify immediately.

4 THE COURT: As far as I understood I was supposed to  
5 notify immediately. You're not answering my question. When  
6 did you notify New Jersey? If you don't remember, say you  
7 don't remember.

8 MR. LENTO: I know I notified the state of New Jersey  
9 in July of 2013.

10 THE COURT: And how did you notify the state of New  
11 Jersey?

12 MR. LENTO: By mail.

13 THE COURT: By letter. Do you have a copy of that  
14 letter?

15 MR. LENTO: In my records I'm -- I probably would.

16 THE COURT: Probably would.

17 Could you, Mr. Feinstein, provide us with a copy of  
18 that letter?

19 MR. FEINSTEIN: I cannot today, Your Honor, but I'll  
20 be more than happy to supplement the record with a copy of that  
21 letter.

22 THE COURT: That's fine. And when did you notify the  
23 District of New Jersey?

24 MR. LENTO: Your Honor, I -- forgive me, I would  
25 imagine at the same time.



1 THE COURT: You would imagine.

2 MR. LENTO: I --

3 THE COURT: And how would you imagine you let the  
4 District of New Jersey know?

5 MR. LENTO: I really don't recall, Your Honor. My  
6 understanding of what I was supposed to do at that time was to  
7 notify the state of New Jersey and the Eastern District in July  
8 of 2013 when the suspension took effect.

9 THE COURT: So you didn't think you had to notify the  
10 District Court in New Jersey; is that fair?

11 MR. LENTO: That may be fair to say. I certainly  
12 didn't actively not notify a court. I mean, I notified the  
13 Eastern District. I notified the state of New Jersey.

14 I haven't done any work in the Federal District Court  
15 of New Jersey. So there would be no reason for me not to do so  
16 if I had understood that at the time.

17 THE COURT: The materials we have show that the New  
18 Jersey District Court didn't act on your discipline until 2018.

19 MR. LENTO: It sounds about accurate, Your Honor. I  
20 got a phone call or a letter of correspondence. I know I spoke  
21 to the District Court in the -- well, I think it would be the  
22 spring of 2017, two years back, when the New Jersey reciprocal  
23 discipline was being finalized.

24 THE COURT: Well, the order from the Chief Justice of  
25 New Jersey Supreme Court, Stuart Rabner, is dated 21st of June,

1 2017. Are you saying that it took New Jersey four years after  
2 you notified them to impose reciprocal discipline?

3 MR. LENTO: Your Honor, could I just verify just one  
4 thing, please? Judge Rabner --

5 THE COURT: You can clarify more than one thing.

6 MR. LENTO: Sure, sure. Judge Rabner, like that's  
7 the state's -- forgive me if I'm ignorant about certain  
8 matters.

9 Judge Rabner, I remember, I appeared before him.  
10 That would have been in the spring, I believe it was -- I'd  
11 have to double check the time, maybe the spring of 2017. It  
12 did take New Jersey a significant amount of time to follow up  
13 on the discipline.

14 THE COURT: And you never notified the New Jersey  
15 District Court?

16 MR. LENTO: I don't -- I may not have, Your Honor.  
17 I'm not sure off-hand.

18 THE COURT: All right, well --

19 MR. LENTO: I'd have to double check. But again, if  
20 I had not, it would be an oversight, because I notified again  
21 the Eastern District and the state of New Jersey per the  
22 expectation immediately. I would have no reason not to notify  
23 the District Court, other than just not realizing at the time.

24 THE COURT: Don't you know that under our rules,  
25 you're obligated to notify once you -- once discipline was

1 imposed and under the Pennsylvania rules, you were obligated to  
2 notify every Bar in which you're a member?

3 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: But you -- so it was an oversight. You  
5 didn't do what the law required you to do?

6 MR. LENTO: I would have to double check my records.  
7 If I didn't do it, it would have been a -- an unintentional  
8 oversight.

9 THE COURT: Uh-huh. And you're going to provide us  
10 with whatever his record shows; is that right, Mr. Feinstein?

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: And why were you suspended in the first  
13 place? What was it you did?

14 MR. LENTO: I made a poor decision. I went to law  
15 school at night, started my own practice day one. To best  
16 explain it, the marketing idea that I had was to send directed  
17 letters to people who had posted bail in Philadelphia. I knew  
18 of somebody who had a bail list with people had posted bail.  
19 The --

20 THE COURT: Mr. Lento?

21 MR. LENTO: Yes?

22 THE COURT: You knowingly violated the Code of  
23 Professional Conduct; is that right?

24 MR. LENTO: It was as much naiveté and  
25 overzealousness.

1 THE COURT: Yes or no?

2 MR. LENTO: I --

3 THE COURT: Did you know you were violating the Rules  
4 of Professional Conduct?

5 MR. LENTO: I can't go that far with it respectfully.

6 THE COURT: You didn't know you were doing something  
7 wrong?

8 MR. LENTO: I didn't -- if I -- I didn't know the  
9 implications of what would be involved.

10 THE COURT: I'm sorry, sir. You're going to have a  
11 very difficult time demonstrating by clear and convincing  
12 evidence that you have the moral fitness to practice before us  
13 if you refuse to answer simple questions.

14 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Did you know you were violating the Code  
16 of Professional Conduct when you told various court officials  
17 that you would pay them if they would give your card out and  
18 the cards bore fruit?

19 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: You knew?

21 MR. LENTO: With the benefit of hindsight, I realize,  
22 yes.

23 THE COURT: Not with the benefit of hindsight. At  
24 the time you did it?

25 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: In fact, isn't that why you told Ms.  
2 Biaggio (phonetic), this is just between us, because you didn't  
3 want her to blow your cover?

4 MR. LENTO: Or -- yes.

5 THE COURT: You're not sure?

6 MR. LENTO: I would like to add something, but it's  
7 probably not worth my adding, but I would say, yes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: I don't know what that means you'd like  
9 to add something, but it's not worth your adding.

10 MR. LENTO: The aspect with Ms. Biaggio, it's not an  
11 entirely accurate reflection. I guess Your Honor may not  
12 be -- noting it at the moment, but I didn't -- it reflects that  
13 I liked forced her to do something. I -- that wasn't the case.  
14 But yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: I'm not suggesting that you forced her to  
16 do something.

17 MR. LENTO: I know.

18 THE COURT: It's these are the facts you stipulated  
19 to.

20 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Respondent explained to Ms. Biaggio that  
22 this arrangement would be just between her and Respondent.  
23 Respondent reiterated that this arrangement was just between  
24 her and Respondent. Is that what you did?

25 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: And you did it -- why did you tell her it  
2 would just stay between the two of us?

3 MR. LENTO: Well, I realized I was doing something  
4 wrong.

5 THE COURT: You sure?

6 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: And so, you haven't been a member of the  
8 Bar of this Court for how long?

9 MR. LENTO: I have not since -- I would imagine it  
10 would be since 2013.

11 THE COURT: You have a website, correct?

12 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: And you created that website presumably?

14 MR. LENTO: I --

15 THE COURT: Your firm website?

16 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Got a picture of yourself on the art  
18 museum steps like Rocky, correct?

19 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Drinking a bunch of raw eggs in the  
21 morning, correct?

22 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: In your media appearances, you  
24 state -- you have a picture of a boat that was recently the  
25 subject of a federal raid and you state, "Attorney Joseph D.

1 Lento represents one of the Defendants in the case involving  
2 one of the largest drug seizures in the United States history."

3 Is that a true statement?

4 MR. LENTO: I'm involved in a limited capacity, Your  
5 Honor.

6 THE COURT: You don't want to tell me whether or not  
7 it's a true statement?

8 MR. LENTO: It's a true statement, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: How is it a true statement that you're  
10 representing defendants who are charged in a court where you  
11 can't appear?

12 MR. LENTO: I was working with a colleague, Your  
13 Honor, on a case.

14 THE COURT: Well, then you don't represent him, do  
15 you?

16 MR. LENTO: I get involved accordingly, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: How can you be involved accordingly? You  
18 can't be involved at all, can you?

19 MR. LENTO: I'm saying I could follow up accordingly,  
20 Your Honor, as to whatever may be needed in that regard.

21 THE COURT: Okay, follow up accordingly. I don't  
22 know what that means. Follow up in what respect?

23 MR. LENTO: To reflect what would be need to be  
24 reflected at this time.

25 THE COURT: You mean you would correct your website?

1 MR. LENTO: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Well, why did you misstate it in your  
3 website? Why did you suggest you were practicing in this  
4 Court?

5 MR. LENTO: I didn't -- I don't believe I had gone  
6 that far with it, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: You don't think that's what this suggests  
8 is that you practice in federal court? You don't think that's  
9 what it suggests?

10 "Attorney Joseph D. Lento represents one of the  
11 defendants in the case involving one of the largest drug  
12 seizures in United States history."

13 The case is here. McSwain's got it all of his  
14 website. You don't think it suggests you were practicing in  
15 this Court?

16 MR. LENTO: It may, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: May. You also say that you're -- you  
18 filed a lawsuit on behalf of plaintiffs against the Southern  
19 Ohio Correctional Facility, a federal civil rights lawsuit.  
20 Where did you file that?

21 MR. LENTO: In Ohio, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: And you -- what did you get admitted Pro  
23 Hac?

24 MR. LENTO: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And did you inform the Ohio authorities



1 that you were not licensed to practice here?

2 MR. LENTO: In the Eastern District?

3 THE COURT: Yeah.

4 MR. LENTO: The office took care of it, Your Honor.  
5 I would imagine that they did.

6 THE COURT: You would imagine that they did. We'd  
7 like to see those papers, too, Mr. Feinstein?

8 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: Do you have anything else for us, Mr.  
10 Feinstein?

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: If I might, Your Honor?

12 THE COURT: You may.

13 BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

14 Q Excuse me. What was the original recommendation of  
15 the court in New Jersey with regard to separate charges -- with  
16 regard to the charges that were pending in Pennsylvania?

17 A A reprimand.

18 Q And was one of the reasons why it took so long for  
19 the New Jersey court to issue whatever its sanction was, was  
20 because of the harsher sanction that was here in Pennsylvania?

21 A In part, yes.

22 Q And then, you had the reciprocity was taking place in  
23 New Jersey. And for how long were you actually suspended in  
24 New Jersey once the -- once it was retroactive at -- excuse me,  
25 let me rephrase that. Was your suspension in New Jersey made

1 retroactive?

2 A Yes.

3 Q So how long have you actually spent suspended for in  
4 New Jersey prior to having your license reinstated there?

5 A I'm sorry, could you -- I could --

6 Q Once the reciprocity went into effect and they did it  
7 retroactively, how long was your actual period of suspension in  
8 New Jersey?

9 A Well, I mean, it was retroactive to July 2013, but  
10 in -- I had stopped practicing altogether. It was like a self-  
11 imposed suspension until -- well, the suspension took effect in  
12 the spring 2017, about maybe a month and a half or so.

13 Q Okay, when you were communicating with the District  
14 Court of the District of New Jersey, what was its ultimate  
15 decision about whether you should be suspended?

16 A The -- just to be clear, this is with Judge Rabner as  
17 the Supreme Court justice?

18 Q I'm talking about the District of New Jersey, federal  
19 court in New Jersey, were you suspended in federal court New  
20 Jersey, regardless of when you informed them, did you receive a  
21 suspension in the District Court of New Jersey?

22 A No.

23 Q Okay, since you were suspended in Pennsylvania and  
24 reinstated in Pennsylvania, have you applied for licensure in  
25 any other states?

1 A Yes.

2 Q What states?

3 A New York State.

4 Q Okay, were you in fact licensed and admitted into the  
5 state of New York?

6 A No. Oh, you mean -- yes, yes, I was.

7 Q Okay, did you advise the state of New York of your  
8 suspension in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and in federal court as  
9 is required?

10 A I informed them of the suspension, yes.

11 Q Did you go through a character committee in New York  
12 prior -- a character committee review in New York prior to the  
13 time of your reinstatement -- being admitted in New York?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay, have you been charged or accused of unethical  
16 conduct in any of the jurisdictions that -- oh, strike that.

17 Other than the events that led to your suspension in  
18 Pennsylvania, and then the reciprocity here and in New Jersey,  
19 have you ever been the subject of any disciplinary accusations  
20 or proceedings in any jurisdiction?

21 A No.

22 Q Okay.

23 THE COURT: When you were suspended in Pennsylvania,  
24 at that time, you were a member of the Pennsylvania Bar, the  
25 District of New Jersey Bar, the New Jersey Bar, and the Eastern

1 District Bar. Any other Bars?

2 MR. LENTO: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: You sure?

4 MR. LENTO: Yes.

5 THE COURT: We would like from you, Mr. Feinstein, a  
6 document indicating what Bars your client was a member of at  
7 the time of his suspension?

8 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes, sir.

9 THE COURT: If he was a member of any other Bars,  
10 whether or not he notified those Bars?

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: And not just a statement from you or from  
13 your client, but there are national databases, for instance,  
14 that show where attorneys are admitted.

15 MR. FEINSTEIN: I'll do the search myself, Your  
16 Honor.

17 THE COURT: Very well.

18 BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

19 Q During the period of time that you were suspended  
20 from practice in Pennsylvania, did you -- what did you do to  
21 make money?

22 A I sought a real estate license. I got licensed as a  
23 real estate sales person. Prior to that taking place, I took a  
24 job with Thomson Reuters in New York City doing say legal sales  
25 of sorts, commuted from Philadelphia to Manhattan for a period

1 of time, but the opportunity would have been there based on  
2 what would have been involved. So I pursued the real estate  
3 after I got my real estate license.

4 Q Typically, when a person is suspended from practice  
5 and they have the opportunity to be reinstated, they -- if they  
6 have to file a petition, they do so, why has it taken you six  
7 years to file a petition in this Court in order to be  
8 reinstated in practice here?

9 A In part, I've been trying my best to get back on my  
10 feet since this issue. It has taken a toll. I do with the  
11 Court's proffer agreement have the opportunity to pursue  
12 federal cases. And it was deemed that that would be a suitable  
13 time to follow up in that regard.

14 THE COURT: Is it because of this big drug case --

15 MR. LENTO: No, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: -- that you wanted to get admitted here?

17 MR. LENTO: No, Your Honor. That -- well, I mean,  
18 that would -- it would be appreciated, Your Honor, but that  
19 wasn't the reason why.

20 THE COURT: Well, you're being very unclear. Why did  
21 you wait so long before you petitioned for reinstatement here?

22 MR. FEINSTEIN: Your Honor, if I might?

23 THE COURT: Go ahead.

24 MR. FEINSTEIN: I filed this petition on his behalf  
25 long before that was even a possibility. So that was not a

1 determinative --

2 THE COURT: You filed a petition before us?

3 MR. FEINSTEIN: I filed the petition in this Court at  
4 least two months ago, so --

5 THE COURT: No, no, I'm asking why it took him as  
6 long as it did --

7 MR. FEINSTEIN: Oh, I'm sorry, maybe I misunderstood  
8 your question. Because you were asking about whether it was  
9 related to this drug case --

10 THE COURT: No, no, I'm satisfied that it's not.

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: Okay, that's -- okay.

12 THE COURT: But I'm asking why --

13 MR. FEINSTEIN: I was answering that question, Your  
14 Honor.

15 THE COURT: -- it took him so -- you had asked him  
16 why it took him so long --

17 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yeah.

18 THE COURT: -- to petition for reinstatement here.

19 MR. FEINSTEIN: Yeah, I did, but I was following up  
20 on your question as to whether it was related to the drug --

21 THE COURT: Understood, understood.

22 BY MR. FEINSTEIN:

23 Q And, also, you work currently for Optimum Law Group;  
24 is that correct?

25 A Yes.

1           Q     And that's in addition, you have your own website,  
2     but -- and I'm also associated with Optimal Law Group; is that  
3     correct?

4           A     Yes.

5           Q     Okay, and you will be working under my supervision in  
6     federal court if you are reinstated?

7           A     Yes.

8           THE COURT:   Who was your monitor for the year you  
9     were on probation?

10          MR. LENTO:   Andres Jalon, Your Honor.

11          THE COURT:   Andres Jalon?

12          MR. LENTO:   Jalon.   He actually hoped to be here  
13     today, but he had a --

14          THE COURT:   To the extent you -- Mr. Feinstein, can  
15     provide us with a statement under oath from Mr. Jalon, that  
16     would be helpful.

17                 And to go back to my question, why did you wait five-  
18     plus years before you petitioned for reinstatement here?

19          MR. LENTO:   I never had seen, like going back to what  
20     I said earlier, Your Honor, it's been a long road getting back  
21     on my feet, a lot of say ducks to beat -- gotten in a row.

22                 I never had the respective opportunity to  
23     say -- start working in federal court on a more -- on a large  
24     capacity before my involvement with Optimum Law Group.

25          THE COURT:   Had you had any cases here at all while

1 you were licensed to practice law?

2 MR. LENTO: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: And what is it you hope to do in this  
4 Court if we admit you?

5 MR. LENTO: Federal work, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: What kind of federal work?

7 MR. LENTO: Civil injustice, claims work, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Criminal work?

9 MR. LENTO: It would be a part -- I would like to,  
10 Your Honor. I had applied for the CJA panel way back when, but  
11 regardless of that, that wasn't my intention in terms of  
12 petitioning the Court.

13 And just to respectfully reiterate, Your Honor, I had  
14 petitioned. It was in the spring, colleagues of mine had  
15 prodded me to do so and had prodded me to do so.

16 I mean, I would need to take the initiative on my  
17 own, obviously, and that's why I had followed up in that  
18 regard. I felt that it was time respectfully to -- for me to  
19 try to appear before the Honorable Court and --

20 THE COURT: Did you work as a probation officer while  
21 you went to law school?

22 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: So you went to law school at night?

24 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: How long were you at -- is this Temple?



1 MR. LENTO: Yes, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: How long?

3 MR. LENTO: For fours years.

4 THE COURT: Four years.

5 MR. FEINSTEIN: I have nothing further, Your Honor.

6 JUDGE KELLY: Nothing.

7 JUDGE HEFFLEY: I have no questions.

8 THE COURT: Thank you.

9 MR. LENTO: Thank you, Your Honor, thank you.

10 THE COURT: You have anything more, Mr. Feinstein?

11 MR. FEINSTEIN: I don't. If you do have a specific  
12 time frame in mind --

13 THE COURT: Uh --

14 MR. FEINSTEIN: -- that you need these documents by?

15 THE COURT: We -- the way this process works is this  
16 panel will prepare a report and recommendation to the full  
17 court. We will send you and your client a copy of that report  
18 and recommendation.

19 You'll have two weeks to file objections. If you  
20 don't intend to file objections, we ask you to let us know  
21 sooner.

22 If you do file objections, the R and R with the  
23 objections go to the full court and would be taken up at our  
24 next meeting, which is unlikely to be before the fall.

25 Can you get us by the end of the week the documents

1 we asked you for?

2 MR. FEINSTEIN: I can't guarantee that because I  
3 don't know what I'm going to be able to recover.

4 THE COURT: As soon as you can. As soon as you can.

5 MR. FEINSTEIN: I'll have it for you by --

6 THE COURT: One of my law clerks will be in touch  
7 with you.

8 MR. FEINSTEIN: That's fine.

9 THE COURT: -- to remind you.

10 MR. FEINSTEIN: I'll have it for you by next week.

11 THE COURT: All right, anything else you wish to  
12 present?

13 MR. FEINSTEIN: No, thank you, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: All right, then we will take the matter  
15 under advisement. Thank you very much.

16 MR. FEINSTEIN: Thank you.

17 MR. LENTO: Thank you.

18 (Proceedings concluded at 2:53 p.m.)  
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**CERTIFICATE**

I, Chris Hwang, court approved transcriber, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

*a h*

July 16, 2019

Chris Hwang

Date

Transcriber